



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

Thomas W. Carr, Jr.  
Fire Chief

### FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT SECTION

#### ADMINISTRATIVE EXCEPTION 07-01

**CODE REFERENCE:** Life Safety Code (2003) NFPA 101; Section 17.1.6 and referenced Table 17.1.6 "Location and Construction. Day-care occupancies, other than day care homes, shall be limited to the locations, construction types, and sprinkler protection features specified in Table 17.1.6."

**BACKGROUND:** Many day-care occupancies reside in religious worship buildings, typically below the sanctuary area. Many traditional religious worship buildings (churches) are Type III (200) construction. (IBC Type IIIB). Typical existing religious worship buildings have the LED serving the sanctuary story. Table 17.1.6 precludes day-care occupancies from being one story below the Level of Exit Discharge (LED).

**EXCEPTION:** Existing day-care occupancies may reside one story below the LED in existing religious worship buildings of Type III (200) construction type, provided the day-care complies with any one of the following:

1. The building is provided with an approved, monitored automatic sprinkler system.
2. The building is provided with an approved, monitored automatic detection system.
3. The day-care occupancy, the egress path, and all spaces that open to its egress path, are provided with hardwired, battery backup interconnected smoke alarms in all spaces.

**JUSTIFICATION:** Early detection and suppression of fires provides protection equivalent to passive compartmentalization in construction.

**PREPARED BY:** Richard E. Merck, P.E.

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**FIRE MARSHAL**

Fire Code Enforcement Section

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